SENATE HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION		
EXHIBIT NO.	5	
DATE:	1/27/09	_
BILL NO.	58237	_

January 27, 2009

Chairman Mr. Brueggeman, members of the Senate Highway Transportation Committee:

Oki (Hello), Napi Tsa-ni-da-bi (my friend, How are you)

Ni-sto Ni-da-ni-goo (Me, My name is) Cheryl Little Dog (Sap-bat-dsim-mak-gi Sweet Pine Woman).

I am thirty-six years old and a paraplegic in a wheel chair. In my heart, I know what drinking and driving can take and be taken by not wearing your seat belt. On May 19, 1991 eighteen years ago, I was just like all of you, walking, not a thought in mind something could happen. Just in minutes, I was thrown one-hundred and sixty feet from the vehicle. Since my accident in 1991, I have wanted to see a change in the behaviors that lead to so many tragic deaths and injuries in vehicle crashes with people not wearing their seat belts on and off the Blackfeet Nation. As the coordinator for the Safe on all Roads, under the Montana Department of Transportation and the Native American Traffic Safety, Director of Sober Behind the Wheel (Blackfeet Medicine Wheel), and the Pikanii Action Team a Program Officer at Blackfeet Housing under the Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant. I am determined to make and see a change on and off the Blackfeet Nation, with so many people not wearing their seat belts and all the alcohol related fatalities. I have been sending a spiritual message to all the people on and off the Blackfeet Nation. I would like all the people to have the spiritual wisdom and understanding, we can all come together to give the support and guidance in each other, with the knowledge, wisdom, forgiveness, healing and the strength with kindness for all things great to come to all of us in Jesus, Our Creator's name. This, leads all of us to the four seasons, the four elements and the four stages of life; baby, youth, adult and elders. The four human qualities that must be in balance for all of us to be healthy include; emotional, spiritual, mental and physical. As we all travel through the paths of the medicine wheel, through the ages of our life, the medicine wheel leads us to wisdom. The medicine wheel teaches us that we can come to wisdom at anytime. Start choosing to wear your seat belts and not to drink and drive and not to ride with a drunk driver. Start showing the respect to your families and all families of communities on and off the Blackfeet Nation. In the duties of the Blackfeet Tribal Business Council members, I am asking for a Public Proclamation agreement for a Safety Seat Belt use on all Roads and Highways on the Blackfeet Nation. Have the respect for one another and don't Drink and Drive and Wear your Seat Belt it is your life and the life of other's behind your wheel. I would like to give a all of you a special thank-you and appreciation for this great opportunity in telling my story.

Ap-bist-dok-gi Es-sam-mok-gin-nan (Lord, our father watch over all of us).

Thank You Sincerely yours,

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